

21 September 1984

The Honorable Richard Helms  
The Safeer Company  
1627 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

We wish to thank you for your recent letter, written to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in support of HR 5805, which would provide survivor and retirement benefits to former spouses of CIA officers excluded from such benefits under the 1982 legislation, PL 97-269, which amended CIARDs.

We believe your support was essential in recognizing these nameless loyal women and establishing the importance of their contributions to their country and to CIA during their cumulative many years abroad.

We know that we speak for many of the women in this small group when we say we are proud to have served as part of the CIA overseas mission under your leadership. And may we say in the name of all CIA spouses that we are grateful that your letter spoke for us at this critical legislative hearing, which can mean the difference between years of retirement in dignity or in hardship for this small group of faithful CIA women. We are encouraged that our legislation will be passed into law in the 1985 Congressional session, at least. For your important help in bringing that about, we thank you.

Sincerely,



Barbara Colby

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